

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
CULLEN T. GALLAGHER ON HIS
APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a truly outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Recently, I had the opportunity to nominate Cullen T. Gallagher for an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

I am pleased to announce that Cullen has been offered an appointment and will be attending the Air Force Academy with the incoming cadet class of 2003. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is one of the most rewarding and demanding time periods these young men and women will ever undertake. Our military academies turn these young adults into the finest officers in the world.

Mr. Speaker, Cullen has demonstrated the kind of leadership and dedication needed to enter the Air Force Academy with the class of 2003. While attending Perkins High School in Sandusky, Ohio, Cullen excelled academically attaining a grade point average of 3.795, which ranks him forty-first in his class of one-hundred sixty students. Cullen is a member of the National Honor Society, the Academic Challenge Team, and the Who's Who Among American High School Students. In October, 1998, Cullen was named the Rotary Club's Student of the Month.

In addition, he attended the National Youth Leadership Forum on Law and the Constitution in Washington, D.C., and attended the United States Air Force Academy Summer Scientific Seminar. Outside the classroom, Cullen is the president of the Ski Club, and is a member of the Spanish Club, Drama Club, Marching Band, and Show Choir. On the fields of competition, Cullen is a member of the Perkins High School Varsity Cross Country and Tennis teams.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Cullen T. Gallagher. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Cullen will do very well at the Air Force Academy, and I wish him much success in all of his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO WESTLAKE HILLS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the designation of Westlake Hills Elementary School as a United States Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School.

The Blue Ribbon Award for Educational Excellence recognizes a school's achievement in all facets of academic development including teacher training, student achievement, edu-

cational innovation, and community involvement.

Westlake Hills Elementary School has far transcended the norm in all these areas and has demonstrated its deep commitment to molding well rounded, socially conscious leaders for the 21st century through its outstanding range of programs.

Westlake Hills teachers frequently participate in workshops and conferences on a wide range of educational issues, showing the tremendous value Westlake Hills places on maintaining the high caliber of its faculty and keeping its teachers abreast of new idea in education. These teachers then employ these ideas in the classroom, resulting in projects including a 6th grade "wax museum" and a 1st grade "dinosaur dig." In addition, Westlake Hills recognizes the importance of involving a child's first and most influential teachers in the learning experience, with 75% of Westlake Hills parents logging in an astounding 12,000 hours of volunteer time.

These efforts are reflected in the test scores of the student body, which place Westlake Hills above all the other elementary schools in its district. Westlake Hills has also answered President Clinton's "America Reads Challenge" by forging a partnership with nearby Pepperdine University, in order to ensure that each and every child can read both independently and effectively.

Along with its demonstrated excellence in the classroom, Westlake Hills realizes the importance of extracurricular activities in creating the "total" student. Over 200 children participate in clubs for subjects including drama, physical fitness, and Spanish. A club also exists for computers, making use of the school's technology center.

Westlake Hills believes that their goal in forming the "total" student would also be incomplete without instilling in the students a sense of their responsibilities as members of their local community. They have joined General Colin Powell's "Make a Difference" volunteer program, where the children share their time assisting senior citizens.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in celebrating the recognition of Westlake Hills Elementary School as a National Blue Ribbon School. It is a prime example of the extremely positive effects which a partnership between all members of a school community can produce. Westlake Hills' approach to public education is a paradigm which all American schools should strive to emulate.

A TRIBUTE TO THE DE JONG
FAMILY

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the de Jong family of San Diego County, California. Over the last few years, I have had the privilege of working with Arie de Jong and other members of a family that epitomizes the American success story. The de Jong's are close friends to America, which has given them the opportunity to lead and succeed.

On May 26, the de Jong family celebrated 50 years of American heritage with a reunion

in Poway, California. Since 1948, when Tom de Jong moved to America, the de Jong family has been an important piece of San Diego's community.

I have attached an article from the online edition of the San Diego Union Tribune that explains more family history and this recent celebration.

In addition, I want to extend my personal congratulations on their first 50 years in American history, and wish them health and happiness for the next 50 years.

FAR-FLUNG FAMILY MEETS, MARKS 50 YEARS
IN U.S.

(By John Berhman)

POWAY—The de Jong family is a coming-to-America success story.

Fifty years ago, from their native Holland, the family—a mother, father and 10 children—traveled across the United States to a relative's sparse cattle ranch here. From that beginning, they grew into one of the most successful and well-known families in North County.

The family's Hollandia Dairy in San Marcos in an institution. Family members have spread out all over California and the country, many of them working in the dairy business.

Yesterday, many of them returned to their American roots, celebrating 50 years of being in this country with a family reunion where it all started.

They met at Old Wyoming Picnic Grounds, the family homestead at the end of Old Pomerado Road in south Poway. They gathered around shady oak trees and three stone buildings that served as the family's first homes in this country to reminisce and give thanks.

It is quite an extended family now. From 10 brothers and sisters have come 54 children and nearly 100 grandchildren, most of whom are expected during the reunion. About five family members, mostly cousins, are attending from Holland. Other family members have come from Oregon, Michigan, New Mexico and various parts of California.

"This is wonderful. This is what family and friends are all about. And, this great country. We feel so privileged to be a part of this country," Tom de Jong, at 73 the oldest of the 10 brothers and sisters, said yesterday at the kickoff of the event.

Tom was the first of the family to come to America. That was in 1948, when he took a job working on his uncle Sam Bruinsma's ranch in what is now Poway. Bruinsma was married to Tom's father's twin sister, Tante Jet.

Impressed with America and the opportunities it offered, Tom wrote to his parents, insisting they join him.

The rest of the family did indeed follow the oldest son, arriving in New York on May 26, 1949. This week's reunion—expected to draw more than 200 de Jongs and close friends—marks the 50th anniversary of that event.

"I will never forget that day," Arie de Jong, 60, perhaps the best known of the clan, said yesterday. "The Statue of Liberty and that New York skyline—and coming to America."

"America has been good to us."

Arie, after helping his family start the Hollandia Dairy, became a millionaire in the trash-hauling business. Among the possessions he has acquired are the three stone structures in Poway that his family first lived in.

The reunion, the first of its kind for the family, was Arie's idea.

"It's really for the kids and the grandkids through," he said. "It's to show them where their family started in this country."

Arie has arranged a busy schedule that included a barbecue picnic last night at the old family homestead, a trip to Catalina today and tomorrow, another barbecue and picnic Saturday at nearby Big Stone Lodge, and church on Sunday followed by final farewells.

A TRIBUTE TO H. GAYLON GREENHILL

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished public servant. H. Gaylon Greenhill, Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, has decided to retire after 37 years of dedicated service to the institution and our region. Chancellor Greenhill has done so much to advance the cause of higher education in Wisconsin, and it is for his service that I salute him today.

H. Gaylon Greenhill has served in a variety of capacities at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater throughout his tenure. Before being appointed chancellor in 1991, he served as Chairman of the Political Science department, Dean of Summer School and Extension Services, Acting Dean of the College of Letters and Sciences, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, and Vice Chancellor and Dean of Faculties.

Chancellor Greenhill received his Bachelor's degree in Social Studies at University of Wisconsin-River Falls and earned his Master's and Doctorate degree in Political Science from the University of Illinois. He was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Oslo from 1960-61.

During his tenure as chancellor at UW-Whitewater, the university developed and implemented the campus exterior plan, constructed the Irvin L. Young Auditorium, renovated the James R. Connor University Center and Hyer Hall, and made major technological advances such as the construction of a fiber optic computer network, the addition of numerous workstations in computer labs and the complete wiring of the residence halls.

Under Chancellor Greenhill's leadership, UW-Whitewater has been ranked in U.S. News & World Report's top tier of midwestern regional universities for five consecutive years. UW-Whitewater has also recently received accreditation from the North Central Association and National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Chancellor Greenhill initiated the Excellence for the 21st Century Campaign to raise \$10 million for scholarships and university betterment. Not only did UW-Whitewater surpass this goal, it did it two years early and had \$2.4 million in excess.

Chancellor Greenhill will retire from UW-Whitewater effective June 30, 1999. I know that I speak for everyone in the UW-Whitewater family when I wish him and his family well as they begin this new and exciting stage in their lives together. Thank you for your service to your community, Chancellor, and thank you for what you have done for the university.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE MAJOR JOHN B. MAHAN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy-heart that I wish to take this moment to recognize the life and career of one of The United States' great men, Major John B. Mahan. Sadly, Major John Mahan died after suffering a stroke in 1995. While his family and friends remember the truly exceptional life of Major Mahan, I, too, would like to pay tribute to this remarkable man.

Major John B. Mahan served proudly in the U.S. Army from 1938 until his retirement in 1961. During that time, he served in North Africa. While in North Africa, Major Mahan was wounded and had to spend months in a state-side hospital to recover. In the Marine Division, Major Mahan served in the Korean War as a liaison officer/transportation officer in some of the war's most intense months.

Later in his life, Major Mahan was stationed at Fort Carson as company commander. In 1957, he was chosen to be the Commandant of Cadets in the R.O.T.C. program for the Denver Public School District. Major Mahan put his all into the R.O.T.C. program, running it until his retirement.

Although his professional accomplishments will long be remembered and admired, most who knew him well remember Major John Mahan, above all else, as a friend. It is clear that he is truly missed, yet his family can take solace in the knowledge that each is a better person for having known Major John Mahan.

ANOTHER REASON WE NEED A RX BENEFIT FOR EVERYONE IN MEDICARE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, a number of us have introduced H.R. 1495, a bill to provide a prescription drug for everyone in Medicare. A provision in that bill requires a system to prevent drug errors and the use of contra-indicated drugs.

Over-prescription and reactions among multiple prescriptions costs Americans billions of dollars a year in illness—and thousands of deaths. If we can reduce those errors, the total health care system can make enormous savings.

A new article in the May/June 1999 issue of the Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association provides another example of why we should improve the quality of drug use among all Medicare beneficiaries. Following is the abstract of Rajender Aparasu's study entitled, "Visits to Office-Based Physicians in the United States for Medication-Related Morbidity."

Objective: To examine the prevalence, nature, demographics, and resource use associated with visits to office-based physicians in the United States during 1995 for medication-related morbidity.

Design: A nationwide cross-sectional survey of ambulatory care visits to physician

offices, based on data from the National Center for Health Statistics' 1995 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey.

Setting: Physician office-based settings in the United States.

Patients: Patients visiting office-based physicians for principal diagnoses of adverse effect of medications (ICD-9-CM E-code 930.00-947.9).

Main Outcome Measures: Weighted measures of prevalence, nature, demographics, and resource use associated with visits related to adverse effects of medications.

Results: An estimated 2.01 million (95% confidence interval, 1.69 to 2.34 million) visits for medication-related morbidity were made to office-based physicians in the United States during 1995, representing an annual rate of 7.70 visits per 1,000 persons. Medication-related visit rates were greater in women, in patients between 65 to 74 years of age, and in the Midwest. The most frequently cited reasons for medication-related visits were skin rash, nausea, and shortness of breath. The therapeutic agents responsible for medication-related visits were most often hormone and synthetic substitutes (13.32%), antibiotics (11.55%), and cardiovascular drugs (9.30%). Medication-related visits most often involved diagnostic services and medication therapy. The majority included instructions for a scheduled follow-up, and fewer than 1% resulted in hospital admission.

Conclusion: Medication-related ambulatory care utilization can pose a significant burden on health care resources unless specific strategies are initiated to control medication-related problems. The provision of pharmaceutical care can play an important role in reducing medication-related problems and associated health care costs.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF ELBERT GILL IN CELEBRATION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE OTTAWA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a very special tribute to one of the truly outstanding individuals from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District, Mr. Elbert Gill. On Monday, May 31, 1999, Elbert Gill will retire from service as Chairman of the Ottawa County Board of Elections.

Elbert Gill has certainly been a valuable asset to the Ottawa County Board of Elections. Since joining the Board of Elections in March 1989, Mr. Gill has worked diligently to serve the voters of Ottawa County in every manner possible. Whether it is his generosity in taking the staff to meetings or assisting with trouble-shooting on election night, Elbert Gill has given unselfishly of his time and helped make Ottawa County one of the best Boards of Elections in the state of Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, Elbert Gill embodies the very spirit of American workmanship through his conscientious attention to detail. In his job as Chairman of the Ottawa County Board of Elections, Mr. Gill has epitomized the word that best describes him—service. Although he is retiring after ten years on the board, his hard work, commitment, and dedication to the citizens of Ottawa County will continue long into the future.